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**APR 18 2005**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: : M. Rao  
C.D'HULST et al. :  
Serial No.: 09/980,771 : Group: 1652  
Filed: November 15, 2001 :  
For: STARCH...AND THEIR USE :

475 Park Avenue  
New York, New York 10016  
January \_\_, 2005

**AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action of December 8, 2004, please amend the application as follows:

**Amendments to the specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 9 of this paper.